

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are pending. Claims 3 and 5 have been canceled. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Claims 1, 2, and 4 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Pfister (US 2739463). The applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

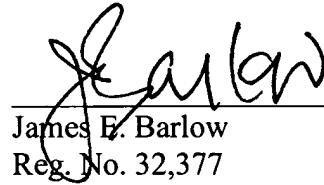
The patent to Pfister et al. fails to disclose all the limitations of claims 1 and 4. For example, the patent to Pfister et al. fails to disclose an elastically deformable member located between the projections of the input section and the projections of the pulley. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4 based on the Pfister et al. reference should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, and 4 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Aoki et al. (US 6918835). However, the Aoki et al. reference is not prior art. The priority date of this application (3 March 2003) is earlier than the filing date (8 September 2003) of the Aoki et al. reference. The applicants have attached an accurate translation of the priority document (JP 2003-55590) and a declaration by the translator. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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